

WOMAN'S WORLD.

DEFEAT OF THE SUFFRAGE ADVOCATES IN NEW YORK.

Women as Wage Earners—Women's Fads Nowadays—Skilled Girl Jewellers—Amelie Rives of Today—For Her Dainty Foot—English Ladies in Knickerbockers.

So far as the present constitutional convention is concerned, woman suffrage has been defeated by the adoption of the adverse report of the suffrage committee on Wednesday, but the advocates of the innovation have good reason for encouragement as to the future, for of the votes cast more than one-third, or 58 out of 156, were in their favor. In the last constitutional convention, in 1867, they had only 19 votes with them, and the proposition was treated both by the delegates generally and the great mass of the public as a mere exhibition of eccentricity on the part of a few impracticable individuals.

Really it was not until this year, and a short time only before the assembling of the constitutional convention, that any considerable part of the women of the state began to take enough interest in the question to form any opinion about it. Feminine sentiment respecting woman suffrage was undiscoverable, for practically there was none outside of the small number of unrepresentative feminine agitators. Even women who had broken through the restraint of oldtime conventions put upon the enlargement of the sphere of their activities gave little thought to the subject. They were too much occupied with their struggle for social freedom to have time to spend in contending for political privileges. The mass, including the most intelligent, passed the subject by with utter indifference.

Suddenly, a few months ago, a great change occurred. The question of woman suffrage began to interest women of the very social circles in which before it had always been ignored. A strong and decided feminine sentiment as to the subject began to be manifested, and serious discussions of it took place in quarters where once its very mention would have provoked derision. The advocacy of woman suffrage became even fashionable, but it provoked corresponding opposition, and the division of sentiment was sharp. Petitions in favor of the measure were counteracted by petitions against it, and when the constitutional convention met the delegates were between twofers. No single proposition before them has excited so much public interest as this of woman suffrage, and their decision has been anxiously awaited by many thousands of women in all parts of the state who hitherto have taken only a reflected interest in political questions.

The agitation for woman suffrage, therefore, has made great progress very rapidly. It has not succeeded in its first real battle, but it has demonstrated that it is a force powerful enough to make its future victory probable, if not inevitable. It has made the question a serious question of practical politics by finally arousing feminine interest in it to a wide extent, so that more than one-third of the votes in the constitutional convention on Wednesday was favorable to the innovation. That is as well as the advocates of it could have hoped to do reasonably, considering the existing division of feminine sentiment as to the proposition. The result of this initial contest indicates that whenever the women of the state generally ask for the ballot they will get it. Whenever they agree in wanting to vote, men will give them the privilege of voting.

Women as Wage Earners.

The health of that division of women workers which may be called professional compares favorably with that of their more favored sisters, if to have nothing to do is to be considered as favored. Work itself does not hurt women. In the occupations which show a percentage of ill health it is proved to be the accompaniments of work, before mentioned, which are the factor inducing ill health.

It must always be difficult to compile statistics covering the moral life of men or women, but so far as information can be collected it proves that girls who work for their living are girls who prize virtue and chastity. Vice is always ready to welcome new devotees, and in a certain sense the girl who chooses it has less struggle for her food and clothing than they have who work 18 hours a day doing piece sewing or working in stores at \$5 a week. In factory towns it is customary to condemn the girls who "freak" on the streets at night, and who are noisy and conspicuous there, but it is well to remember that those evenings are the girls' relaxation, and they may be loud without being sinful. The former comes from a lack of gentle breeding, not always from depravity. Credit is due to these women who value so highly that intangible womanly virtue that they retain it through temptations outward and inward.

The economic evils of women workers may be summed up in these paragraphs: Insufficient wages.

Imperfect health.

Lack of education.

The grinding poverty which forbids any culture.

The untidiness of the workers' lives for those of the mothers of coming generations.

The temptations to seek evil rather than good.—D. W. Morrell in Home and Country.

Women's Fads Nowadays.

Mrs. Burton Harrison's story, "A Bachelor Maid," deals with phases of the woman's rights question. In The Century one of her characters remarks: "What extraordinary capers these females are up to nowadays! If you believe me, I got a notice from a committee of them requesting me and 'all the adult members of my household' to

call somewhere to sign a petition to strike out of our state constitution the word male as a qualification for voters. Now, I haven't any household; but, if I had, why shouldn't they ask my babies as well as my adults if the thing is to put everybody on the same footing? Last year it was street cleaning. All the pretty women went at you at dinners and asked if you had influence with various 'bosses' whom they 'longed' to know. Well, they accomplished then what they set out to do, those charming creatures. I must confess, but why can't they rest on those laurels? The year before it was the abolition of ash barrels. You couldn't open your mouth to a girl at a party without having an ash barrel thrust into it! They've had their dab at city politics, and, as to the higher education of women, the university settlement and the Kindergarten association, those we have always with us—and we are allowed to buy tickets or send checks for boxes for their entertainments to an almost unlimited extent!"

Skilled Girl Jewellers.

On Sixth avenue, just below Fourteenth street, New York, is a jewelry firm which consists of two young women. There are several women who carry on the jewelry business with men to do the work, but these girls are expert jewelers themselves. They were both brought up in the business by their father, and when he died the girls were competent to carry it on. They make many lovely rings to order, but their specialty is watch mending. Both are skilled workwomen. One is reckoned among the finest watch repairers in New York city and understands the mechanism of imported Swiss watches that are too much for many old hands. In fact, so well known is her talent that the most famous firms of jewelers in New York, whose names are known the country over, send many delicate timepieces to her to be mended and supplied with some delicate spring or bit of mechanism that otherwise would have to be sent abroad to be fitted.

Both young women are bright, pretty, intelligent, and nothing on the sign or about the establishment would for an instant suggest that the business was entirely handled by two young women. They are doing well, they say, and getting ahead in the world.

Amelie Rives of Today.

Mrs. Chandler has a strong face, regular features and with a chin of firmness. Her nose is a little inclined to be beaked, somewhat like her father's. Her complexion is healthy and indicates vitality. There is the patrician air about her tempered with gentleness. One forgets in her presence that she could write a book throbbing with human passions that at times reach a paroxysm of frenzy greater in intensity than anything Dante has ever written. In one less gifted it would have been considered puerile sentiment run mad. This handsome matron, still young, still in the prime of a glorious womanhood, has all that wealth can give. But she has reached the zenith of her aspirations, or does she still dream that she will write a book which will create more comment and more criticism than "The Quick and the Dead"? No one can fathom that question by gazing at her handsome face. Her life abroad and the homage that has been paid her have robbed her of the ingenuous girlhood ways which her friends knew and loved so well in her rural home. That is not saying she is not sincere and not as friendly as ever. It means that she has had to meet society and learn its diplomatic politeness.—Exchange.

For Her Dainty Foot.

Cotton, lace and silk stockings are all worn. Many women, myself among the number, prefer a cotton to a lace thread stocking, inasmuch as the twist of the thread in the lace ones irritates the soles of the feet. Dark blue and black stockings are liked for street wear, except when tan shoes are worn, and then, of course, the stockings match the shoes. The navy blue stocking is usually chosen by those who find that the dye from a black stocking affects their skin. This is by no means common, but the very minute it is discovered one should cease wearing the black and select another color, or else wear white, for one never knows to what extent a skin disorder may go. With gray or scarlet shoes or slippers the stockings are chosen to match, and these may be got in silk at a much lower price than is given for black ones. Many women have discovered that the wearing of suspenders pulls a silk stocking so that it "rallies," which means "goes to the stocking, and so for this reason the wearing of the garter above the knees is gaining favor.—Isabel A. Mallon in Ladies' Home Journal.

English Ladies in Knickerbockers.

Considerable commotion was created in the neighborhood of Tottenham Court road Monday night by the appearance of many ladies, arrayed in tunics, knickerbockers, gaiters and—the words must be written—stockings of various hues, seated on bicycles, who dashed up in vigorous style to the doors of the Ideal club and entered therein. The occasion was a reception to inaugurate the formation of a lady cyclists' federation, which is intended to promote cycling among women and to emancipate them from the tyranny of long skirts. By its aid also they hope to make themselves independent of the staid, old-fashioned inkeepers who refuse them admission to dining rooms because they have discarded petticoats, for it will provide them with houses of call of their own, where they will to all intents and purposes be their own mistresses. The federation will also help them to buy machines on the hire system and generally to make members as good as, if not better than men. The reception was well attended and very successful.—London News.

The Curve of the Bat.

The great point in a hat nowadays, writes Cousin Madge, is the character of the curve. If we suppose a family of



FOUR GENERATIONS OF ROYALTY.

This interesting picture is taken from a recent photograph. It shows Queen Victoria; her son, the Prince of Wales; her grandson, the Duke of York; and her great-grandson, who was christened Prince Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David.

some nine or ten sisters, with a certain similarity of outline, we shall yet find that no two of them look their best in exactly the same hat. What, then, must it be with the world of girlhood at large? It is absolutely safe to say that there never was yet any hat worn by sisters in which one was not, to a certain extent, sacrificed to the other. Take, for instance, the large hat of soft and flexible fine black chip, with its multitude of exquisite feathers for trimming and its one blush rose at the back, with another companion bud resting on the hair under the curve at the left side. It might be imagined that such a headgear as this would make any girl look her loveliest, but when one comes to try it on it is found that a certain amount of alteration in the very important point of curve will be necessary in most cases.—London Truth.

An opportunity.

Here is an incident of the Peckskill camp which shows that at least one brave soldier boy was on duty there. Among the campers to the camp on the Fourth was the wife of a private in one of the separate companies. Her husband was in the guard detail for the day and had been posted as a sentry guarding a portion of the camp where visitors are not allowed.

The wife, after searching vainly for him in his company street, at last discovered him at his post. She ran gladly to greet him, but stopped in dismay before a level bayonet.

"Bait! Who is there?" sternly challenged the sentry.

"Why, John, don't you know me?" asked the wife in dismay.

"You can't come any nearer." The wife moved a step.

"Bait! Corporal of the guard, post 7!" he shouted.

The corporal ran from the guard tent to find the wife confronted by her sentinel husband. All three were from the same town, and the corporal knew the couple well.

"Sentry, what is the matter? That's your wife," he said in astonishment.

"I know it," said John, with a wink, "but I haven't had my own way since we were married, and I thought I'd have it now."

The sentry was soon relieved from duty and bought ice cream at the restaurant to atone for his cruelty.—Yonkers Statesman.

Lark.

A friend of mine was once walking along a country road trying to find his way to a neighboring village. He was doubtful about his course, and when he saw a bumpkin lying half asleep by the roadside he questioned him as to the road he should take. The countryman looked up at him with closed eyes, and, without moving his hands from behind his head, he replied to the wholly unnecessary trouble of opening his mouth at all, simply replied to the question by turning his bare foot in the direction the traveler should take and wagging his toe. My friend, who is himself a past master in the art of doing nothing, was struck with admiration of this act and said, "My friend, if you will show me a lazier act than that, I will give you \$1." There was a pause for a moment. The bumpkin did not even open his eyes this time nor betray by any sign that he had heard. Presently, however, his toe moved—his smallest toe in order to save the exertion of moving a larger one—and pointed to an upturned hat by the roadside into which the dollar might be and was dropped.—Boston Home Journal.

Mrs. Bryant's Diary.

William Cullen Bryant's mother, it is said, kept a diary 63 years without missing a day. This is the entry for Nov. 3, 1794: "Storming, wind N. E.; churning: 7 in the evening snow born." This leads the Boston Transcript to believe that Mr. Bryant did not inherit his poetical predilection from his mother.—New York Tribune.

Must Have a Large Collection.

Mabelle—Brother Tom always gives me a bracelet every birthday.

Edith—You ought to start a jewelry store.—Chicago Record.

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